

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, promote the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute and elect this 19th day of January, 1869, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States of America.



JULIA BOGGS DENT GRANT

First Lady (1869–1877)

Julia was born on January 26, 1826 in St. Louis County, Missouri, the daughter of Colonel Frederick Dent and Ellen Bray Wrenshall.

Ulysses became an admirer of Julia when they met while he was stationed at the nearby Jefferson barracks. Julia's father was insistent that she marry someone who would be able to provide for her in comfort, so Julia did not tell him about her engagement to a soldier. Eventually her father gave in, and Julia and Ulysses were married on August 22, 1848. Ulysses' parents did not come to the wedding because they were dismayed that their son had married into a slave-owning family. Julia and Ulysses had four children: Frederick Dent, Ulysses, Ellen Wrenshall and Jesse Root.

Julia was the first First Lady to write her memoirs, although they would not be published until 1975. She was a consummate hostess, giving dinners where the wine flowed like water and multiple courses sometimes lasted more than four hours.

Julia died on December 14, 1902 at the age of 76 years. She is buried next to her husband in "Grant's Tomb" on the west side of Manhattan.

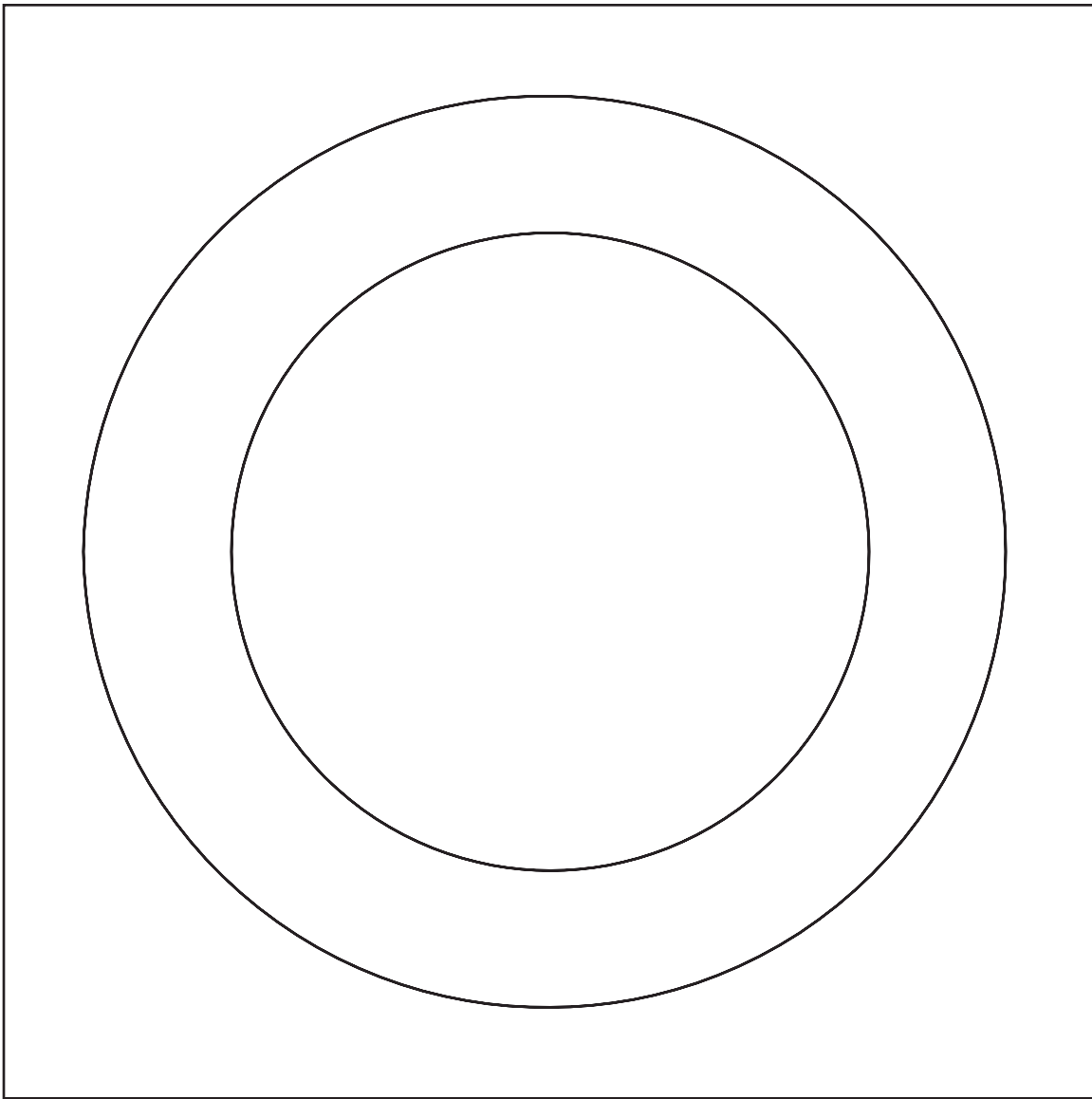
"Life at the White House was a garden spot of orchids, and I wish it might have continued forever."

~Julia Grant



Julia's China

Julia's block commemorates her purchase of a set of china that remains, by some accounts, the handsomest in White House history. The plates had flowers in the center and the flowers were surrounded with a yellow border.



Julia's China
Making the Block

Using the diagram above, make templates and appliqué to a 7" square of background fabric according to the block design. Trim block to 6½" x 6½".